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REMARKS

The foregoing amendment and the following arguments are provided generally to impart precision to the claims, by more particularly pointing out the invention, rather than to avoid prior art.

Claims 1, 4-12, 14-16, 18-21, 24-32, 34-36, 38-45 were rejected. Claims 1, 11, 16, 21, 31, 36, and 41 have been amended. Claims 1, 4-12, 14-16, 18-21, 24-32, 34-36, 38-45 are pending. Support for the amendments is found in the specification, the drawings, and in the claims as originally filed. No new matter has been added.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1, 4-8, 10-12, 14-16, 18, 21, 24-28, 30-32, 34-36, 38, 41-44 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0044751 (hereinafter "Pugliese") in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0027481 (hereinafter "Whye").

Applicant's independent claims include limitations that are not disclosed nor suggested in either Pugliese or Whye. As such, applicant's independent claims are patentable over Pugliese in view of Whye.

In particular, applicant's independent claims include the limitations:

the data processing system displaying a list of service providers to a service seeker via an internet connection, the list indicating individually whether each service provider in the list of service providers is currently available to telephonically communicate with the service seeker at a time when the service seeker is viewing the list;

...

at the live advice communication appointment, the data processing system establishing a first real time communication connection with one of the service seeker or service provider;

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in response to establishing the first real time communication connection, the data processing system establishing a second real time communication connection with one of the service seeker or service provider; and in response to establishing at least the second real time communication connection, the data processing system connecting the first and second real time communication connections to the service provider provide live advice to the service seeker at the scheduled appointment. (Applicant's independent claim 1 as amended).

Neither Pugliese or Whye include the limitations set forth above. Rather, Whye is limited to disclosing the scheduling of appointments and reservations.

Claims 21, 31, 36 and 41 recite similar limitations discussed above. Thus, at least for the above reasons, independent claims 1, 11, 16, 21, 31, 36 and 41 and their dependent claims are patentable over Pugliese and Whye.

Claims 9, 19, 20, 29, 39, 40 and 45 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Pugliese in view of Whye, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,477,246 (hereinafter "Dolan"). Dolan was relied upon only for the additional limitations recited in claims 9, 19, 20, 29, 39, 40 and 45. Since the base claims of claims 9, 19, 20, 29, 39, 40 and 45 are patentable over Pugliese and Whye, claims 9, 19, 20, 29, 39, 40 and 45 are also patentable over Pugliese, Whye and Dolan at least for the reasons discussed above.

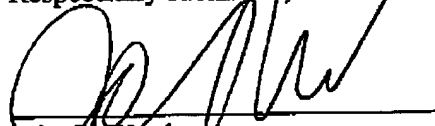
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CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's objections have been successfully traversed and that the application is now in order for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration of the application and allowance thereof is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: September 5, 2006

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